

Dear Professor Lederberg,

25.12.1956, Budapest

thank you very much the most valuable reprints you have kindly sent me. I received them only now due to the revolutionary events of the last months in Hungary.- Simultaneously I am mailing you the reprints you have requested. I hope you will find some interest in them.

The unique results you have reached in bacterial genetics I appreciate long time ago, nevertheless it was a very pleasant surprise and I was peculiarly delighted reading your newest paper dealing with the question of bacterial protoplasts. That is the very field of research we are engaged in, too, with my wife, especially since several months, when we began to investigate into <sup>the</sup>genetical significance of these protoplasts. Namely after a lapse of time spent with morphological studies we did not find anymore interest in these matters and decided to get along the biochemical and genetical line. - At the beginning of this year we have had already the method to produce quantitatively the bacterial protoplasts for genetical and biochemical purposes eliminating at the same time the bacillary forms of the given bacterium strain. /Our method is different from that you are describing, but serves the same purpose./

According to our electron micrographs it is highly probable, that the fusion of the protoplasts can take place and therefore it seemed already then reasonable to attach some genetic significance to them.

While beginning the genetical work with the protoplasts of two different strains the first, preliminary results proved to be promising, but the events of our October Revolution made an end to our work. The more we regret this, since it seems very improbable to be able to continue this work according to our conception in the near future in Hungary.

Encouraged by these extremely adverse conditions I dare to put you the question whether we could be offered the possibility at a time not yet definable to spend some time in your most appreciated laboratory? This question is, at the time being, only a virtual one, since we have no idea how and when may we get the permission to leave Hungary for the U.S. and many other problems are unsolved yet. Anyhow, at any time in the future we could have the honour to work in your laboratory for a while, would be of immense importance for our further investigations.

Excuse me for asking you this favour

sincerely yours

*Juhász*  
/ Dr I. Juhász /

P.S. Please send your answer to my home address: Budapest, VI. Csengery u. 64.IV.2., Thank you.